

The University of Alberta Department of Music presents:

MUSIC AT CONVOCATION HALL



Jacques Després, piano
Johanne Perron, cello

Sunday, October 17, 2010 at 2:00 pm
Convocation Hall, Arts Building



DEPARTMENT OF
MUSIC
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Programme

Sonata for cello and piano

Claude Debussy

Prologue

Sérénade et Finale

Sonata for cello and piano

Francis Poulenc

Allegro-Tempo de Marcia

Cavatine

Ballabile

Finale

INTERMISSION

Sonata for cello and piano

César Frank

Allegretto ben moderato

Allegro

Recitativo-Fantasia

Allegretto poco mosso

Johanne Perron

An international cello artist, Johanne Perron presently pursues a career as chamber musician, solo performer and educator. As soloist she has played with orchestras including the Montreal, Mexico and Lisbon Symphonies among others under the direction of Charles Dutoit, Franz-Paul Decker, Arthur Weisberg, Otto Werner Muller and the assistant conductor of the Israel Philharmonic Zeev Doorman. She has presented recitals in Canada, Brazil, Mexico, and United States as well as in Europe and has collaborated as chamber musician on the American stage with members of the Philadelphia piano quartet and Classic Chamber concerts of Naples Florida and also appeared at the Luzerne NY chamber music festival. She has been a first-prize winner of several contests and founder/member of the Cellissimo Duo and Trio Garami. She has been featured numerous times on radio and television broadcasts in Canada and on WQXR in New York.

Born in Chicoutimi, a city in the Province of Quebec in Canada, she was awarded the first-prize in cello and chamber music at the Conservatoire de Québec with Pierre Morin. As a Canada Council grant recipient, she obtained a Master's degree at Yale with Aldo Parisot and thereafter studied with Leonard Rose at the Julliard School of Music in New York. She has attended several master classes with distinguished artists including Janos Starker in Banff, Pierre Fournier in Geneva and Paul Tortelier in Los Angeles. She has won several awards including the Prix d'Europe as well as first prize in strings at the Tremplin International des Concours de Musique du Canada.

Critics of the Musical America magazine have described her as "an artist of extraordinary musical dimension, compelling intensity and deep inner serenity." The day following a recital which she had given as part of the series Sons et brioches, Gilles Potvin wrote 'her sonority is unswervingly beautiful and of great fluidity. What is most striking about her are the musical gifts which enable her to phrase with sensitivity and elegance...'

Johanne Perron has served on the faculty of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro and at the Lynn University Music Conservatory at Boca Raton, Florida formerly known as the HARID Conservatory. She has taught and given master classes at festivals in Brazil, Canada, and the United States. In 2005, after a twenty year absence from Canada, Johanne Perron returned to serve on the artist faculty at the University of Montreal strings department, a renowned international school of music which attracts young and talented musicians from around the world.

For her, the purpose of teaching is not only to transfer knowledge but also to create a dialogue with younger people. Attesting to this are her three daughters who have in turn adopted a passion for musicianship. Johanne adds, "This human dimension demands a lot of personal investment of time and energy but results in a great satisfaction within my teaching career." She plays a 1901 Gustav Bernardel cello made in Paris.

Jacques C. Després

Born in Ste-Anne-de-la Pérade – a direct descendant of Québec City's first settler– Jacques Couillard Després and his extraordinary musical talent caught the eye of legendary Canadian conductor Wilfrid Pelletier in 1963. The following year, Félix Leclerc gave the young pianist a book, in which he inscribed: "Men are bored. Rock the human suffering in music (your music) [Les hommes s'ennuient. Bercer la douleur humaine en musique (ta musique)]." Couillard Després continued to receive accolades, garnering such awards as the first prize at the Montreal Symphony Orchestra competition in 1978, and the Prix d'Europe in 1981 from the Académie de musique du Québec. With this particular award, Couillard Després joined an elite list of distinguished Québec musicians, including such talents as Jacques Hétu, André Prévost, Chantal Juillet, Wilfrid Pelletier, Clermont Pépin, and Kenneth Gilbert. Couillard Després has led a diverse artistic life, appearing as a soloist with many orchestras, solo recitalist, collaborative artist, lecturer, educator, recording artist, and musical director of the Summer Serenades at Stony Brook University in New York.

Critics worldwide have celebrated Couillard Després' musical approach for its rare combination of virtuosity and artistic integrity. Couillard Després commands a broad and eclectic repertoire. Notable recordings include world premieres of the complete Joseph Martin Kraus piano works and *The New Goldberg Variations* (Bach, Frazelle, Rouse, Lieberson, Corigliano, Schickele and Danielpour) with cellist Tanya Prochazka. The Kraus performances, on Naxos, received widespread critical acclaim and exposure in national and international radio broadcasts. The Kraus album became a bestselling album for a Canadian artist on Germany's Amazon site in 2006. Couillard Després supplemented this recording with two compact discs of Kraus' complete chamber music work (also on Naxos) where he served as editor. His broad interests are reflected in his performance of the Chopin ballades on a period instrument in New York City in the late 1980s using the then little-known Ekier edition of Chopin's works. He was subsequently invited to lecture at Juilliard on the use of this landmark edition of the Polish master's ballades.

Highlights of the past few seasons include performances of Rachmaninov's Rhapsody on a Theme by Paganini, Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 2 and appearances in Hong Kong, Beijing, Manila, Seattle, Montreal, New York, Chicago, Reno, and Sacramento. He performed Beethoven's Choral Fantasia at the inauguration for University of Alberta President Indira Samarasekera. He was invited to present master classes at leading institutions in North America as well as the Central Conservatory in Beijing. Couillard Després served as judge and chairman of many competitions in Canada and abroad. In the fall 2009, he was invited as the Daniel Éricourt Artist-in-Residence at the University of North Carolina in Greensboro. In this residency, Couillard Després follows an esteemed line of pianists such as Jon Nakamitsu, Jose Feghali and Pascal Roger. In the 2010-2011 season, Couillard Després' performances will include solo and chamber music recitals as well performances of the E minor Chopin concerto. He will also continue his work on Debussy's complete piano music.

Since his appointment as Professor of Piano with the Department of Music at the University of Alberta in 2000, Couillard Després has worked with some of the most talented students from Canada and abroad. In 2009 one of his students became the first music performance doctoral student in Canada to receive the Vanier scholarship from Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

Couillard Després was awarded a Premier Prix à l'unanimité au Conservatoire de Musique du Québec. He graduated with a Master's degree from the Juilliard School and holds a DMA from the University at Stony Brook. He received the Artist Diploma with Distinction at Indiana University. His teachers were Christiane Sénart, Gyorgy Sebok, Adele Marcus and Gilbert Kalish.

MUSIC AT CONVOCATION HALL

This classic series is pleased to present the talents of Music's teaching faculty alongside some of the world's leading visiting artists.

ALL PERFORMANCES AT CONVOCATION HALL

The Enterprise String Quartet with guest Janet Scott Hoyt, piano
8 pm, Tuesday, November 2, 2010

Trio Voce
8 pm, Saturday, December 4, 2010
Featuring works by Shostakovich, Weinberg & Beethoven

Bill Street, saxophone with guest Roger Admiral, piano
3 pm, Sunday, January 23, 2011
Featuring works by Donatoni, Denisov, Steenhuisen & Gubaidulina

The Kilburn Concert Series presents Ilya Kaler, violin
8 pm, Saturday, February 5, 2011
"A magician, bewitching our ears" — London's Gramophone. Ilya Kaler is one of the most outstanding personalities among today's Violinists

Baroque Cantatas for Soprano, Trumpet, Strings & Continuo
8 pm, Friday, February 11, 2011
Featuring works by Scarlatti, Melani & Handel

Music of Today featuring Faculty Composers with guests David Harding, viola;
Julianne Scott, clarinet; Roger Admiral, piano
7 pm, Friday, March 4, 2011
Featuring new compositions by Howard Bashaw, Mark Hannesson & Scott Smallwood

Jacques Despres, piano
8 pm, Friday, March 11, 2011
Featuring the works of Debussy



Events Survey

Please help us better understand our audience.

- 1 The event you are attending occurs on what date and time?

Date:		Time	
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- 2 Who is the main performer / ensemble?

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- 3 Where did you hear about this event?

Facebook		Twitter		Music website		Music poster
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Radio		Newspaper		Word of mouth		Other
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- 4 What could we do to attract you to more events in the Department of Music?

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- 5 Relative to other events you might attend, how do you feel about the price of this concert?

Too expensive		About right		I'd pay more	
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- 6 What did you like best about this event?

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- 7 What did you like least about this event?

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- 8 Other comments?

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- 9 Please rate these topics with an X :

	Poor	Acceptable	Good	Excellent	Doesn't Apply
Performance					
Printed Programs					
Venue / Hall					
Seating					
Parking					
Public Transit					

This survey is online at www.music.ualberta.ca/events.cfm

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